

03500.014341



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Examiner: H. Pham
MANABU KATO)
: Group Art Unit: 2861
Application No.: 09/522,294)
:
Filed: March 9, 2000)
:
For: MULTI-BEAM SCANNING) October 2, 2003
OPTICAL APPARATUS AND)
COLOR IMAGE-FORMING)
APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 4,862,196
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,872,586
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,031,561
- (4) Europe 0 898 415
- (5) Germany 198 17 591

Documents (1), (2), (4) and (5) were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above-identified U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report from the European Patent Office, in which these documents were cited and which is dated August 21, 2003, is enclosed. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each of documents (1), (2), (4) and (5) were cited in

a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

An English-language abstract for Germany 198 17 591 has been located and is enclosed. In addition, document (3) is believed to be an English-language counterpart to Germany 198 17 591.

This application has received an Office Action on the merits but has not yet received either a final action or a Notice Of Allowance. Accordingly, this Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). Consideration of the art cited herein is accordingly deemed proper, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant

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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)ATTY DOCKET NO.
03500.014341APPLICATION NO.
09/522,294

APPLICANT

MANABU KATO

FILING DATE

March 9, 2000

GROUP

2861

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,862,196	8/29/89	T. Umeda, et al.	346	108	
	5,872,586	2/16/99	Y. Shio	347	116	
	6,031,561	2/29/00	B. Narayan, et al.	347	255	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
0 898 415	2/24/99	Europe			
198 17 591	10/29/98	Germany			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1